



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIPLOMACY IN ACTION



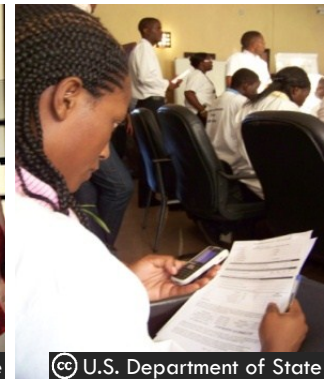
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Factsheet: State Department Internet Freedom Programs

Empowering people to advance a free and open Internet

"We are taking a venture capital-style approach, supporting a portfolio of technologies, tools, and training, and adapting as more users shift to mobile devices. We have our ear to the ground, talking to digital activists about where they need help, and our diversified approach means we're able to adapt the range of threats that they face."

– Secretary Hillary Rodham Clinton, February 15, 2011

INTERNET FREEDOM PROGRAMMING

Since 2008, Congress has appropriated \$70 million to the State Department and USAID for activities to advance Internet freedom. The State Department has already obligated \$50 million, and will award more than \$20 million later this year, in partnership with USAID.

PROGRAMMING AREAS:

- Counter-censorship technology
- Secure mobile communications
- Digital safety training
- Emergency funding for activists
- Internet public policy
- Research on Internet repression

- Trained NGOs and media worldwide to protect against cyber attacks at politically charged moments

AN UNTOLD SUCCESS STORY

Enabling Access: Portfolio includes over twenty circumvention and secure communications technologies

- Top three funded tools help 1.9

STATE'S VENTURE CAPITAL APPROACH

- Invest in diverse responses to Internet repression
- Provide seed money for new ideas as well as support for established programs
- Embrace flexibility and adaptability to the changing landscape of threats to Internet freedom
- Help grantees learn from each other and incubate a new community at the intersection of technology and human rights

REAL TIME RESPONSES TO DEVELOPING THREATS

- During protests in the Middle East, convened regional bloggers for digital safety workshops, where Tunisians and Egyptians gave lessons learned about hacking and surveillance
- Creatively ensured that even sensitive news stories can be seen in Asian countries and elsewhere
- Provided anti-censorship tools to activists in Eurasia in advance of anticipated blocking

million unique users per month • More than 115 million downloads of one sponsored circumvention tool since 2008

Keeping People Safe: In-person training for over 7500 digital activists in hostile Internet environments

- Focus on how to detect & avoid key-logger software, mobile surveillance, social engineering, etc.
- Enabling key activists to organize, advocate, and expose abuses in closed societies

Raising Awareness: Online campaigns and resources on digital risks, anti-censorship options in hostile environments • Materials for non-technical audiences available in 10+ languages • Online campaigns in twelve countries have generated nearly 500K downloads of circumvention technologies

For additional resources, visit:

